The Great Assizes
OR
Generall Day of *Judgement*,
BEING
The laying forth the state of Man in Righteousnesse, and the Cursed Condition of the Wicked.
And the accounts that every Man must give at the Generall Resurrection.

I am the Resurrection and the Life, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live, John 11. 25.

Blessed and Holy is he that hath part in the first Resurrection, on such the second Death hath no power, but they shall be Priests of God and Christ, and raign with him a thousand years, Revelation 20. 6.

By William Knowles *the Unworthiest of God's people, yet servant to Christ, and* B. *of* P.

London, Printed for *Fr. Coles* at the Sign of the Half-Bowle in the Old-baily, 1662.

cup. 408. d. 8 (9)

4404. b. 18.

The Great Assizes
OR
Generall Day of *Judgement*,
BEING
The laying forth the state of Man in Righteousnesse, and the Cursed Condition of the Wicked.
And the accounts that every Man must give at the Generall Resurrection.

I am the Resurrection and the Life, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live, John 11. 25.

Blessed and Holy is he that hath part in the first Resurrection, on such the second Death hath no power, but they shall be Priests of God and Christ, and raign with him a thousand years, Revelation 20. 6.

By William Knowles *the Unworthiest of God's people, yet servant to Christ, and* B. *of* P.

London, Printed for *Fr. Coles* at the Sign of the Half-Bowle in the Old-baily, 1662.

BRITISH MUSEUM

frances wolfreston her book

To the READER.

Chriſtian Reader,

I Here preſent to your view a moſt excellent work, of the general day of Judgement. I deſire you to read it over, and lay to heart what is here inſerted, it will ſhew you the joyes of Heaven, and the pains of Hell; and alſo the ſtate of the Righteous, and of the wicked, ſhewing the carefulneſs you ought to have of your ſouls while you live in this tranſitory life, and ſeek ſo to God as you may know him, and reign with him for evermore, *Amen.* And ſo hoping the ſame may work ſpiritually in you, I for the ſame ſhall pray and reſt,

Your friend in Chriſt,

W. K. B. *of* P.

Give ear unto this, call for doom,
And light your Lamps of Oyl;
It is not long e'r God will come
Unawares and take the ſpoil.
Then watch and pray good Chriſtians all,
For know you God is juſt;
The Righteous unto Heaven he'l call,
To Hell the Wicked thruſt.

Revel. 20. 7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15.

7. *And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of prison.*

8. *And shall go out to deceive the Nations which are in the four quarters of the Earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle; the number of whom is as the sand of the sea.*

9. *And they went upon the bredth of the Earth and compassed the Camps of the saints about, and the beloved City, and fire came down from Heaven and devoured them.*

10. *And the Divel that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimston, where the beasts and false Priests are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.*

11. *And I saw a great white Throne, and him that sate on it, from whose face the Earth and Heaven fled away, and there was found no place for them.*

12. *And I saw the dead great and small stand before God, and the Books were opened, and another Book was opened, which is the Book of Life, and the dead were judged out of those things which were wriiten in the books according to their works*

13. *And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hell delivered up the dead which were in them and they were judged every man according to his works.*

14. *And death and hell was cast into this lake of fire.*

15. *And whosoever was not found in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of Fire.*

Christian Friends, of what degree soever, I beg at all of you for Christs sake, and the good of your own souls, to spend one half hour in reading over this small Book, or tend to hear the

the reading of it: let me entreat you not to neglect so great salvation, and lay by all your busied affairs to hear of the coming of Christ, of the great day of Judgement, which is now even at the door; throw by all to prepare your lamps of Oyl against his coming; for his appearance is a glory to them that fear him; but it will be a terrible day to the wicked, according to my Text of Scripture before laid down. Satan is now loose in the world, he deceives four parts of the Earth: yea, Gog and Magog he gathers together, whose number is as the sands of the Sea; yea, he compasses the camps of the Saints, and the beloved City: so he, like a flying Locust doth corrupt Gods people against the great Assizes to condemne them, when fire shall fall from Heaven and devoure the wicked, and the Divel that deceived the false Prophets of the world, shall be cast into the lake of this fire and brimston with them; then shall Christ sit in judgement and power, and his Saints with him, judging the twelve Tribes of Israel, and the dead small and great shall rise and receive according to their works, and whosoever be not found in the Book of Life shall be cast in the lake of fire and brimstone for ever, where shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth; but the righteous shall never see this, he shall rejoyce when he seeth the vengeance, he shall wash his feet in the

blood of the wicked, so that a man shall say, There is a reward to the Righteous, verily he is God that judgeth the Earth, Psal. 58. 10, 11.

Oh hearken I beseech you and repent you of your former sins, in what condition will that man be in whose works are not good, a fearful thing it is to lose Heaven to obtain Hell, to lose the favour of God, to be cursed with the Divel to lie in torments for ever. Rent your hearts and not your garments turn to the Lord all you that are heavy loaden of your sins; are as red as scarlet he will make them as white as snow saith the Lord of Hosts, I do not desire the death of a sinner, but rather would have you repent and live. Dearly beloved Friends, the Lord doth not desire you to go astray, but to obey his Call while its open unto you; for after death comes judgement; tis no referring your sin of repentance: to day if you will hear his voice harden not your hearts; to morrow is another day, and who knows what a day brings forth: Lie not wallowing in your corruptenesse like to beasts; for the day of slaughter is nigh, a just reward is prepar'd for the wicked; the punishment of Hell might affright you but only you are a people of very hard mettle, misbelieving of the Scriptures, like to the Scribes and Pharisees; but if like to them you do evil, you might partake of their punishments: also I say, how gloomy a sight is the coming of

Christ

Christ to the Righteous: for at the Resurrection God will wipe away all tears from your eyes, and there shall be no more death, wherefore sorrow nor crying; neither shall there be any pain to thee, for the former things are past away; but the fearful, and unbeliever, and the abominable, and unbelievers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and Idolaters, and all lyars shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death and terriblest, Rev. 21. 4, 8. it makes a reasonable Christian go out of his wits to think of the terrible punishment of Hell, strive therefore I beseech you to enter in at the strait gate; For many I say unto you will strive to enter in and cannot be able, Matth. 7. 13. For when once the Master is risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand at the door knocking, without saying, Lord, Lord, open to us; but the Lord will answer, I know you not whence you are, depart from me all you workers of iniquity, Luke 13. 25, 27. Oh what a dismall Sentence is this to be deprived of the joyes of Heaven, and the presence of Christ, wherein is all fulnes of joy, lacking nothing, and rest and peace for evermore. Consider the Lillies how they grow; they toyl not, they spin not, and yet I say unto you Solomon in all his glory was not arayed like to one of these; if God so then cloath the grasse which is to day in the

field, and to morrow is cast into an Oven, and how much more will he cloath you, O you of little faith, Luke 12. 17, 18. Consider my dear Friends, and be better grounded towards God in true faith through Jesus Christ. You see and know that God is able to let you want for nothing so you will but serve him. Mark what God saith in Ezekiel 33. 4, 5. Whosoever heareth the sound of a Trumpet and takes not warning, if the sword come and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head: but he that taketh warning, delivereth his own soul. I beseech you Friends, now you hear this day the sound of God in your ears, take warning hereby, prepare for the coming of Christ in the courts of Heaven to judgement; for assuredly that man that is found unprepared at that day will be in a most damnable condition, they shall burn as an oven; yea, and all the proud and all that do wickedly shall be stubble, and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord; that is, shall not leave neither root nor branch; but unto them that fear my name saith God, shall the Son of righteousnesse rise with healing in his wings, and you shall tread down the wicked, for they shall be as ashes under the soles of your feet, Malac. 4. 1, 2, 3. We have great cause to work out our salvation with fear and trembling: what man would run himself in danger when he may escape it. Be not idle

dear

dear Friends, but ſpare of your ordinary ſleep to muſe of the word of GOD, for great is the reward of the righteous in Heaven; yea, love you your Enemies, and doe good, and lend unto the needy, hoping for none again, and your reward ſhall be great, and you ſhall be Children of the higheſt, Luke 5. 35. ſee alſo the manner of Chriſts coming to Judgement: the Lord himſelf ſhall deſcend from heaven with a ſhout, with the noiſe of the Arch-angell, with Trump of God, and thoſe which dies in Chriſt ſhall riſe firſt: then we that are alive and remain, ſhall be caught up with them together in the Clouds, to meet the Lord in the Air: and ſo ſhall we ever be with the Lord, Theſ. 4. 16, 17, 18. but the day and hour knoweth no Man, therefore watch and pray for the coming of Chriſt, for it will over-take you as a thief in the night: therefore ſleep not as do others, but watch and be ſober, for they that ſleep, ſleep in the night, they that be drunken, be drunk in the night; but let us who are of the day be ſober, putting on the breſt plate of Faith and Love, and for a Helmet put on the hope of ſalvation; And I beſeech you brethren to know them that labour among you, and are over you in the Lord; abſtain from all appearance of evill, do good and not hurt, for he that diligently ſeeketh good procureth favour, but he that ſeeketh

eth hurt provoketh shame, Pro. 11. 27. so it must needs be with the wicked a perpetuall shamefull thing for a Christian to be so simple as to lose the presence of God, and his glorious kingdome, to gain the intolerable flashing of Hell Fire; and to be accompanied with divelish companions, to foreshew the glorious light of Heaven, where is light for evermore, to obtain Hells obscured darkneſſe, to be bereft of everlasting Joyes, to sucker perpetuall Torments; this is true, that these torments are prepared for the Damned, which shall be known to all those which is reserved for those torments, by the most wretchfull and indignation of God, a just reward for the wicked: for saith Job, Chap. 21. 30. The wicked is reserved to the day of Destruction, they shall be brought forth to the day of wrath. How oft is the Candle of the wicked put out, and how oft cometh her Destruction upon them, they are stubble before the wind, and as chaff that the storm carrieth away, his eyes shall see his Destruction, and she shall drink the wrath of the Almighty, Job 17. 18, 20. strive to escape this wrath of God, else will your own eyes see your sudden destruction come upon you; is it not better to serve God and be in safety, then to serve the Devill and be in utter destruction: 'tis time Christian Friends to prepare your selves for the day of doom, for it is even at the

dor,

dwr, the ſigns of Chriſts coming doth ſignifie the ſame; for in the latter days there ſhall be Wars and Rumors of Wars with great ſlaughters, blood touches blood, the Father againſt the Son, and the Son againſt the Father, one Neighbour againſt the one, not knowing his Friend from his Foe, and the day is not yet, great ſignes will be in Heaven and in Earth, before the notable day of the Lord cometh, the Moon ſhall be turned into blood, and the Sun ſhall be darkened and forbear her ſhineing: Young men ſhall ſee Viſions, Old men ſhall dream dreams, and divers notable ſignes will be before the day of the Lord cometh, Acts 2.19,20. theſe are the ſignes of the coming of Chriſt, and the generall Reſurrection: when the Lord ſhall appear in the Clouds with magnificent glory coming in the Air, with his Saints judging the Twelve Tribes of Iſraell, but when this is accompliſhed there will be peace and ſafety, but then cometh ſudden deſtruction as a Thief in the night; therefore Chriſtian Friends, watch and pray, for you know not at what hour the Son of Man cometh: you ſee and have heard, and do know that moſt of theſe things are accompliſhed, and we are now in peace and ſafety, and you know not how ſuddenly deſtruction may come upon you: pray, pray for the Lords coming, it is even at the dwr, it cannot be far off: for our ancient

Fathers

Fathers have wrought that the world should last Six Ages: that's to say not six thousand years, for the longest liver was Methusaleh, who lived nine hundred sixty and nine years, and then dyed, Genesis 5. 27. his age six times doubled makes it appear that the last day is not far of us, but will be accomplished in the year from the Creation, to the year of the Lords resurrection 5886. but then the Apostles testifie, write in the book of the Acts, if the dayes be not shortned, there shall be no flesh saved, this beloved is to put you off from knowing the day of the Lords coming: be carefull good people to prepare your selves, do not think with the scoffers of the world that God will not come; or like to Seduces and false Prophets, bringing in damnable doctrine of Heresie, but behold many shall follow their pernicious ways, by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evill spoken of, Pet. 2. 2. if God therefore spares not the Angels that sinned, but cast them down to Hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgement, much more will he reserve the fire of hell for the extortionall sinners of this world: he spared not the whole world, but drowned it, saving eight persons: bringing the flods upon the world of the ungodly, so also shall fire and brimstone burn up the wicked, and leave them neither rot nor branch, the Lord also turned

the

the city of Sodom and Gomorrah unto ashes, condemned them with an overthrow, making an example to all those that ever after should live ungodly, and delivered just Lot, who was vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: so will GOD doe at the Judgement day, he will sever the wicked from the righteous, and shower upon them everlasting Torments: we in England do as justly deserve sudden destruction as did these Cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, for there was not any one sin raigned there, but it is as frequently here, the sin of pride never raigned more, then it doth at this hour, both in City and Country, and that's cloaked over with a badg of Galantry: to what profit is it to be as Dives was in the Gospell, to dwell in a sumptuous Building, to wear rare apparel, to fair delicately every day, to have all the delights that the world could afford him, to be in damnable torments for ever: be content and strive not dear Friends to gain this to loose heaven, for the glory of the world is as nothing to the glory of God: besides sin so aboundeth in number, it is more then the sands of Sea, Sodom had not the sins as we have, why therefore O God are we not destroyed! O thou God art infinite in mercy and truth, sparing thy people, willing them to amendment of life; but I wil present to your view what sins are now in groth at this present time

first

Fathers have wrought that the world should last Six Ages: that's to say not six thousand years, for the longest liver was Methusaleh, who lived nine hundred sixty and nine years, and then dyed, Genesis 5. 27. his age six times doubled makes it appear that the last day is not far of us, but will be accomplished in the year from the Creation, to the year of the Lords resurrection 5886. but then the Apostles testifie, write in the book of the Acts, if the dayes be not shortned, there shall be no flesh saved, this beloved is to put you off from knowing the day of the Lords coming: be carefull good people to prepare your selves, do not think with the scoffers of the world that God will not come; or like to Seduces and false Prophets, bringing in damnable doctrine of Heresie, but behold many shall follow their pernicious ways, by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evill spoken of, Pet. 2. 2. if God therefore spares not the Angels that sinned, but cast them down to Hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgement, much more will he reserve the fire of hell for the extortionall sinners of this world: he spared not the whole world, but drowned it, saving eight persons: bringing the floods upon the world of the ungodly, so also shall fire and brimstone burn up the wicked, and leave them neither root nor branch, the Lord also turned

the

the city of Sodom and Gomorrah unto ashes, condemned them with an overthrow, making an example to all those that ever after should live ungodly, and delivered just Lot, who was vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: so will GOD doe at the Judgement day, he will sever the wicked from the righteous, and shower upon them everlasting Torments: we in England do as justly deserve sudden destruction as did these Cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, for there was not any one sin raigned there, but it is as frequently here, the sin of pride never raigned more, then it doth at this hour, both in City and Country, and that's cloaked over with a bady of Galantry: to what profit is it to be as Dives was in the Gospell, to dwell in a sumptuous Building, to wear rare apparel, to fair delicately every day, to have all the delights that the world could afford him, to be in damnable torments for ever: be content and strive not dear Friends to gain this to loose heaven, for the glory of the world is as nothing to the glory of God: besides sin so aboundeth in number, it is more then the sands of Sea, Sodom had not the sins as we have, why therefore O God are we not destroyed! O thou God art infinite in mercy and truth, sparing thy people, willing them to amendment of life; but I wil present to your view what sins are now in groth at this present time

first

first raigns pride, covetousness, malice, envy, hatred, in all abundance, besides the most damnable sins of cursing and swearing, lying, drunkennes, whoredom, and divers other sins which are weights to weigh a sinner down to Hell.

Oh dear Friends, put from you sin, which is the main thing that keeps you from Heaven; yea, you take delight in sinning to fulfill the lusts thereof: you think when you roar it in Taverns you do a good work when you hurt both soul and body; you vapour and exalt your selves when you should be meek and lowly, you drink Beer and Wine to excesse when you should be sober; besides, running to carnal lusts when you should be chast, using most damnable Oaths and prophane actions, letting your mouths speak guile, acting all evil abominably to the face of God, and thus in the practice of sin you run continually, never thinking of the terrible day of Judgement; yea, mighty terrible will it be to the wicked: and who will be able to stand before the righteous Judge, who judges in truth and righteousnesse, according to the work of every mans doings? In what a sad condition my friends are you in to be judged according to your doings: doth it not behave you all to have a care of your actions, if your works be bad, you must receive its just reward of punishment; if your works be just, your case will be happy at this general seat of

Judge-

Judgement; after life there is no pleading your case; for your case is before known: you are either recorded in the Book of Life or Death, there is no Lawyers to plead for fees, there is none of your earthly friends can pay the ransome of your souls, in what a case of misery are you plunged in at this hour, the Divel is on one side of you, against the word of Sentence is past to bring you to eternal damnation, your own conscience on the other side witnessing against you of all the hidden secret sins, which you in your life time have committed, the wrath of Gods fury hangs over you, his scourging Rod which will torment you, Hell lies under you ready to swallow ye up, where the most damnable torments of Hell fire is prepared for the wicked, then all calamities, sorrows and hellish torments presses you at once and compasses you about on every side; the losse of Heaven and the presence of God is a hellish torment, without any other torment, with the losse of the profitable love of God, and the glory thereof, besides to be punished in the flames of Hell for evermore, where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth, Matth. 24. 30. When the Son of Man shall come in his Glory, and all the holy Angels with him, and before shall be gathered all Nations together, and he shall separate them one from another as a shepherd divideth his Sheep from his Goats; and

he

he ſhall ſet the Sheep on the right hand, and the Goats on the left; and to the righteous ſhall ſay, Come ye bleſſed of my Father inherit the Kingdome of God, prepared for you from the beginning: but to the wicked he ſaith, Go you curſed into everlaſting fire, prepared for the Divel and his Angels, Matth. 24. 31, 32, 34, 41. Lo, theſe ſhall go away into everlaſting puniſhment, and the Righteous into life Eternal.

Dear Brethren the way to eſcape theſe puniſhments dependeth only on things, that is to fear God, and kéep the Commands of GOD; theſe are alſo loſt in your ſelf, redéemed by Chriſt. What Chriſtians in the world would endanger themſelves of death, for the gaining of a trifled matter run into Hell, and forſake Heaven, falling into eternal miſery and might obtain eternal Glory.

A word to you worldly men that makes a God of your Riches, pinching and grinding the poor for gain, It will be eaſier for a Camel to go thorow the eye of a needle, then for ſuch a rich man to enter into life eternal. But truſt not unto uncertain riches; now lay upno earthly riches in ſtore for the morrow, but lay up riches in Heaven, where moth nor ruſt cannot corrupt. And a place where is all fidelity, bliſſe and joy, and eternal happineſſe, relieve the poor and néedy, and turn not from them:

for

for know you what is given to the poor with charitable friends is lent to the Lord and your reward will be great in the Kingdome of Heaven. But such covetous worldly men that will not relieve the oppressed, but lay up their gold in store for many years, are counted like the fool in the Gospel that was suddenly tain from his riches and indanger'd himself of everlasting damnation. Lay up no treasures on earth, take care neither for any thing; for to morrow thou mayst go to thy grave. Then happy is he that hath laid up treasures in Heaven to all eternity, where neth nor rust cannot corrupt, nor Thieves break thorow nor steal; For Heaven and Earth must passe away, and fly from the presence of God, and not one tittle of the Gospel of Christ shall passe away.

O England, beware of Gods heavy wrath and severe judgements against thee for thy rebellious sinning against him: the Lords wrath will consume thee except speedy repentance, he hath stretched out his hand of affliction on the Land, as a toll to the day of Doom, And it shall come passe saith the Lord, at that day I will search with Candles, and punish the men that are settled in their lees, that saith in their heart the Lord will not do good, neither will he do evil; therefore their goods shall become a booty, and their houses a desolation, they shall also build houses, but not inhabit

he ſhall ſet the Sheep on the right hand, an
the Goats on the left; and to the righteou
ſhall ſay, Come ye bleſſed of my Father inhe
rit the Kingdome of God, prepared for yo
from the beginning: but to the wicked h
ſaith, Go you curſed into everlaſting fire, pre
pared for the Divel and his Angels, Matth. 24
31, 32, 34, 41. Lo, theſe ſhall go away int
everlaſting puniſhment, and the Righteou
into life Eternal.

Dear Brethren the way to eſcape theſe pu
niſhments dependeth only on things, that is t
fear God, and kéep the Commands of GOD
theſe are alſo loſt in your ſelf, redéemed b
Chriſt. What Chriſtians in the world woul
endanger themſelves of death, for the gainin
of a trifled matter run into Hell, and forſak
Heaven, falling into eternal miſery, and migh
obtain eternal Glory.

A word to you worldly men that makes
God of your Riches, pinching and grindin
the poor for gain, It will be eaſier for a Cam
to go thorow the eye of a needle, then for ſuc
a rich man to enter into life eternal. Bu
truſt not unto uncertain riches; now lay up
earthly riches in ſtore for the morrow, but la
up riches in Heaven, where moth nor ruſt ca
not corrupt. And a place where is all ſtedfa
bliſſe and joy, and eternal happineſſe, relie
the poor and néedy, and turn not from them

fr

for know you what is given to the poor with charitable friends is lent to the Lord and your reward will be great in the Kingdome of Heaven. But such covetous worldly men that will not relieve the oppressed, but lay up their gold in store for many years, are counted like the fool in the Gospel that was suddenly tain from his riches and indanger'd himself of everlasting damnation. Lay up no treasures on earth, take care neither for any thing; for to morrow thou mayst go to thy grave. Then happy is he that hath laid up treasures in Heaven to all eternity, where moth nor rust cannot corrupt, nor Thieves break thorow nor steal; For Heaven and Earth must passe away, and fly from the presence of God, and not one tittle of the Gospel of Christ shall passe away.

O England, beware of Gods heavy wrath and severe judgements against thee for thy rebellious sinning against him: the Lords wrath will consume thee except speedy repentance, he hath stretched out his hand of affliction on the Land, as a toll to the day of Doom, And it shall come passe saith the Lord, at that day I will search with Candles, and punish the men that are settled in their lees, that saith in their heart the Lord will not do good, neither will he do evil; therefore their goods shall become a booty, and their houses a desolation, they shall also build houses, but not inhabit

them, they shall plant Vineyards, but not drink the Wine thereof; the great day of the Lord is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the Lord: the mighty men shall cry then bitterly, that day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distresse, a day of wastnesse and desolation, a day of darknesse and gloominesse, a day of CLOUDS and thick darknesse, a day of tumpeting and alarum against the fenced Cities, and against the high Towers: and distresse I will bring upon wicked men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the Lord, and their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as the dung: neither their Silver nor their Gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the Lords wrath; give good regard to this you rich men, who like the great fishes of the sea eateth up the poor small fishes, but those the Lord speaks in Micah 6.12,15. the rich men are full of violonce, shall I account them pure that uses false ballance with bagges of deceitfull weights, no, I rather account him a deceiver of the poor; and at this generall day he cannot be able to stand before the Judgement seat of Christ, but will be by his own Conscience prest from the presence of God, wishing the Hills to cover him and hide him from the presence of the Almighty; but when that the word of sentence is past, he must depart to that lake of Fire that burneth for

for ever, where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth, from which place O mighty God deliver us; but if a man will be willing to lose his life to save it, he shall arive to his desired Haven, which is a Heavenly Jerusalem and glorious throne of Christ, as mystically it was put for those prophesies to John in the Rev. 21. 9, 10, 27. and there came unto me one of the seven Angels, and talked with me, saying, come hither, and he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high Mountaine, and shewed me that great City descending out of Heaven from God, having the Glory of God, and his light was like unto stone most precious, even like a Jasper stone clear as Christall, and had a Wall great and high, and had twelve Gates, and at the Gates twelve Angels, which are the manner of the twelve Tribes of the Children of Israell; there was three Gates on the North, three on the South, three on the West, three on the East, and the Walls of the City hath twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve Apostles, of the Lamb, and the City lyeth four square, the length, and the bredth, and the heigth of it are equal, the building of the walls of it was of Jasper, and the City was pure Gold, like unto clear Glass, the Foundation thereof was grounded with precious stones, and the twelve Gates were twelve Pearls, and the Gates of this City were

pure Gold, as it were transparent Glass; and no temple is therein, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the Temple of it. This City of Heaven hath no need of the light of the Sun or of the Moon, for the glory of God and the Lamb is the light thereof, and also there proceedeth out of the Throne of God, and the Lamb a pure river of water of Life, as clear as Chrystal, and in the midst of the street was the Tree of life, which bears twelve manner of fruits, and yieldeth her fruit every month, and the leaves of the tree was for the healing of Nations, there is no night there, and they need no Candle, neither light of the Sun; for the Lord God giveth them light, and they shall raign for ever and ever; these sayings my Friends are faithfull and true: for the Lord God hath shewed unto his Servants the thing which must shortly be done.

Oh beloved consider the Glory of this Heavenly Jerusalem, no man is able to imagine or conceive the wisdome of God, and the Honour and Glory of the Lamb, and his amarous Throne which is the Portion of the Righteous and their greatest reward: For behold saith God I come quickly and my reward is with me, to give to every man according to his works, what are our works by which we must be Judged? Oh Base and Filthy, more worse then the Beast of the Field, we

work

work nothing that's good, we act mischiefe continually to the Face of God, by our most Debauched Swearing, and Cursing, Whoredome, and Drunkennesse, Pride, and Covetousnesse, Extortionall Idolatry, and Deceitfull Living and Murmuring at the handy works of God; but lo, the portion of those wicked men is to be burned in a lake of Fire, which burneth for ever and ever: they will be Tormented with the memory of things past, present, and to come: the Rich man will think of his Fidelity that is past his punishment at present, and his intolerable Torments to come. You Rich Men be convinced and make not a god of your Riches, but make such uses of your Talents that GOD hath lent you; be't thou a King, Rule in Peace, Execute Judgement upon Mercies, spread forth the Gospell of Christ throughout the whole Dominions: and you Judges and Magistrates in chiefest, Judge equity and right, give Justice to the Poor as well as to the Rich: let not the Ballance of Wickednesse out-weigh the Book of Life; nor hide nothing from God, for his all-seeing eye doth bring secret things to a clear light, for what is done in your secret Courts, will be proclaimed on the house Top, to you Lawyers recall your selves to remembrance what Law is, let not handfuls of Gold and Silver carry you from a rightfull

Case,

Take, be you a pleader for the poor, and redeem them from an earthly bondage, and your Saviour will plead for you, and Judge you accoroing at the great Assizes, and redeem you; Next you Ministers of God, measure out the Fruits of Righteousnesse to the People, sound forth the Gospell with boldnesse, rehearse nothing but sound Doctrine, which proceeds from the spirit of truth, and be as a shining light by your zeal and conversation; and lay aside all Superstition, Popery, Schisme, or Heresie, which hath bred Destruction in the Land: And lastly to you People in General, of what degree soever, or opinion, Take these few Rules and Administrations before I end, or quite conclude my Book: to you Learned, search you the Scriptures, and you'l find me not to diminish the word of God, the Law of the Lord, then practise and follow what you find Writ in the Old and New Testament; and to the Ignorant People, I advise you to hearken to the Learned, and to those that Preaches the Gospell, and what they commend unto you, and lay it to heart, and search out your Salvation with Fear and Trembling,

First seek to find God in your hearts, then learn to know him, & be acquainted with him: for if you never seek to know him, how should you ever think to live with him; you think

in

in your hearts how should we know him, that we were beheld with our mortall Eyes: no my Friends, you must see him spiritually and not mortally; for no mortall eyes is able to behold his exceeding magnificent Glory: he sent Christ in the Flesh because we should believe, but for all this, yea for all the means he can use, we will not believe him: yet you say you believe there is a God, but wherein doe you believe? for if you believe aright, how dare you to offend so great a God? no my Friends, if you believe aright, you'l seek to please him, and not offend him, but fear his Judgements, and trust in his Mercy; for he is slow to anger and of great kindnesse. Therefore beloved Conclude with me, with these sayings, fear God and keep his Commandements, and then you may hope to believe aright: prepare your selves against this great day of the Lord, for unto you that fear my name, it will be a day of joy and rejoycing, a day of fidelity, mirth and gladnesse with eternal Bliss, when the Wicked man shall lie and be Cursed with Curses, the Plagues of Hell Tormenting him, the Memory of things past oppressing him, the howle of fearfull Divels affrighting him, the heavy wrath and curse of God hang over him, and worst of all, the Everlasting Torments to come, which doth strike him in everlasting despair: our worldly pains are wonderfull

full to be endured, were we but to sit still a month and ne're to move, to ly in Prison seven years, to hold our hands in Fire for an hour, to be stoned to Death, is nothing to this unknowable Torment, of our earthly torment: the Tormented or the Tormentor dieth and hath an end, but the Pains of Hell hath never end. For the Grace of our magnificent God the Father, and the Glory of his Sonne our Saviour, accompanied with the holy Ghost, defend us from Hell, and bring us to Heaven to raign with him from everlasting to everlasting, Amen.

All Christian men where ere you dwell,
Prepare both great and small,
Seek to avoid the pains of Hell,
And find this heavenly Hall.

7 JY 57

FINIS.